



In Cooperation with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship  
Iowa Field Office · 210 Walnut Street Ste 833 · Des Moines IA 50309 · (515) 284-4340 · (800)772-0825  
fax (515) 284-4342 or (800) 719-1794 · [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)

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Media Contact: Greg Thessen

## Sheep Inventory

**Iowa:** All sheep and lambs inventory at 210,000 head, up 5 percent from last year. Total breeding stock, at 145,000 head, is unchanged from a year ago. Compared to last year, market sheep and lambs increased 18 percent to 65,000 head, and the lamb crop decreased 7 percent to 170,000 head.

**United States:** All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on January 1, 2010, totaled 5.63 million head, down 2 percent from 2009. Breeding sheep inventory decreased to 4.19 million head on January 1, 2010, down 1 percent from 4.25 million head on January 1, 2009. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.34 million head, were 2 percent below last year.

Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2010, totaled 1.44 million head, down 4 percent from January 1, 2009. Market lambs comprised 94 percent of the total marketings. Twenty-five

percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 12 percent were 65 - 84 pounds, 19 percent were 85 - 105 pounds, and 38 percent were over 105 pounds. Market sheep comprised the remaining 6 percent of total marketings.

The 2009 lamb crop of 3.69 million head, was down 1 percent from 2008. The 2009 lambing rate was 108 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2009, up 3 percent from 2008.

Shorn wool production in the United States during 2009 was 30.9 million pounds, down 6 percent from 2008. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 4.20 million head, down 5 percent from 2008. The average price paid for wool sold in 2009 was \$0.79 per pound for a total value of 24.4 million dollars, down 25 percent from 32.5 million dollars in 2008.

**All Sheep and Lambs: Number by Class,  
Iowa and United States, January, 2009-2010**

Class	Iowa			United States		
	2009	2010	2010 as % of 2009	2009	2010	2010 as % of 2009
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Percent</i>
All Sheep and Lambs	200	210	105	5,747	5,630	98
Total Breeding Sheep	145	145	100	4,247	4,190	99
Ewes	120	116	97	3,405	3,340	98
Rams	7	6	86	196	195	100
Replacement Lambs	18	23	127	647	655	101
Total Market	55	65	118	1,500	1,440	96
	2008	2009	2009 as % of 2008	2008	2009	2009 as % of 2008
Lamb Crop	183	170	93	3,710	3,690	99

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